

Building in Love

In the story of the long-handled spoons, none could feed themselves. They could eat only by feeding each other across the table. Feeding each other was the sole way to life.

This idea is grounded in scripture.
We are members of one another.
Each part working properly.
It frames the way to live and move and have our being—
In the body of Christ and in our way of being in our global community.

Ubuntu is an African way of being—
“I am because we are.”
It is about the connection of all humanity.
We are a tapestry of vibrant diversity, connecting all of us in a great web.
Suffering and rejoicing together springs from our common humanity.
There is synergy in community, especially diverse community.
Stronger together.

Life is not zero-sum game—
The belief that there are only so many goodies and that your gain is my loss.
In an interdependent world, your gain is my gain.
In our families, our congregations, our communities, in our global family—
We thrive together.
The cup of life is full and running over.
There are showers of blessing.

—Ralph Detrick
Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania

“He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for *building up the body of Christ*, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11-13, NRSV^{ue}). **Today’s Bible readings from the lectionary:** 2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:13a and Psalm 51:1-12; Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 and Psalm 78:23-29; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35.

August 4, 2024. Photo © Bev Vogel. Used by permission.
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CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

August 4, 2024

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Eunice Plank, Worship Leader

PRELUDE "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" (Bliss)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: With patience and love, we come as one family.
All: *We are one body of Christ, united in God.*
One: Come! Speak of truth, truth told in love.
All: *We gather to listen, and to share our stories.*
One: We are God's children, parts of Christ's purpose.
All: *We rejoice in our gifts, and we thank God for this grace.*
One: Come! Now is the time to worship.

***HYMN #21** "All praise to our redeeming Lord"
[Verse 1]

*All praise to our redeeming Lord, who joins us by his grace,
and bids us, each to each restored, together seek his face.*

[Verse 2]

*He bids us build each other up, and gathered into one,
to our high calling's glorious hope, we hand in hand go forth.*

[Verse 3]

*The gift which he on one bestows, we all delight to prove;
the grace through ev'ry vessel flows, in purest streams of love.*

[Verse 4]

*We all partake the joy of one, the common peace we feel,
a peace to worldly minds unknown, a joy unspeakable.*

[Verse 5]

*The kiss of peace to each we give, a pledge of Christian love, in love,
while here on earth we'll live, in love we'll dwell above.*

***OPENING PRAYER**

God of unity and peace, bind us together as we come now to worship. Strengthen the ties that make us your family. Grant us the grace to recognize our gifts and our place in this body. Guide us to hear your calling as you speak to our lives. Encourage us to bravely burst forth as pastors and teach-

ers, prophets and healers, evangelists and leaders. Dwell in our very hearts, that we may serve in humility— braided with strength and gentleness, intertwined with passion. Build us up in love, that we may grow in our knowledge and our love of you. Speak your truth to our lives, that we may lead lives worthy of your calling. Amen.

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

Pastor or prophet, teacher or nurse, poor man or rich woman, each of us is called to build up the body of Christ. Our job is unfinished until each of us has come to maturity in the full stature of Christ Jesus. Bring now your gifts, given to us by the grace of God.

We joyfully give as one body, both gathered in his house of worship and gathered through virtual technology. We give by placing our offerings in the plate, mailing to, or dropping off at the church, or using Paypal. Together, as we give, we declare our dedication to Jesus and our obedience to serve him.

Offertory "Spirit of Faith, Come Down" (Martin)

***Doxology #119** "Praise God from whom"

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray. God of miraculous grace, transform our gifts into the work of ministry. Transform our lives into your presence in the world. Through these gifts, may we grow in the knowledge of Christ and be strengthened in the unity of faith. Transform these gifts into the bread of life so that in our giving others may be fed. Make these gifts the waters that spring up into eternal life, so that in our giving, others may be nurtured and strengthened as children of God. In your loving and nurturing name, we pray. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND HOPES

Please remember our worship is also on Facebook Live and our website.

Please do not share any personal information you do not want to be made public.

An usher will hold the microphone for you while you share.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 4:1-16

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I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with



Hagerstown
Church of the Brethren
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown, Maryland
21740
301-733-3565

Office: Tuesday—Friday
Flexible hours
(appointments welcome/
call ahead)

Morning Praise Worship
at 8:30 AM
Sunday School at 9:30 AM
Worship and Facebook Live
at 10:45 AM

www.hagerstowncob.org

[www.facebook.com/
hagerstowncob](http://www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob)

Twyla Rowe
Pastor

Allyson McPeak
Administrative Assistant

Burton Young
Director of
Music Ministries

Don Rowe
Interior Esthetics
Technician

*We welcome you to our church and
Rejoice in your participation with us in
worship. It is our prayer that you will
experience the presence of God's Spirit and
that it will equip you for service and ministry
in the week ahead. Our Pastor, Deacons, and
Cluster Leaders are available after worship
and during the week to listen and assist you in
your Christian pilgrimage.*

THE ANNOUNCER August 4, 2024

If you placed someone on the prayer list and they are now celebrating a recovery and would like their name taken off the list, please contact the church office.

If you or a loved one has surgery scheduled, is hospitalized, or would like a visit from the pastor, please notify the church.

“Take a Moment” Let this be our daily "Take a Moment" prayer beginning Sunday, August 4 - Loving God who makes us one, be a force through the indwelling power of your Holy Spirit to defend all Christians from the forces of evil that attack our faithfulness to you and divide us. Bind us together with love that honors you through our compassion and respect for one another as we seek to answer your call on our lives. You have equipped each of your children with talents and skills to use for your work in this world. Empower us and motivate us to use our diverse gifts together in our common efforts so your presence, power and grace may be known through us. Amen.

Our thanks to Eunice Plank for being our worship leader today.

This morning Pastor Twyla will be baptizing Frank Kronawetter.

Attendance. Please sign the attendance rosters found at the end of your pew, or possibly in the hymnal rack, and pass it down the row so everyone can sign.

Attention! The Altruistic Room is currently unavailable for use. Please do not enter or use the room until further notice. Thank you!

The Mary Martha Group will not be gathering the month of August but will resume in September. Held the third Tuesday of each month in the Altruistic Room, noon—2:00 pm.

Fellowship Time will be held today in the Mullendore Room from 10:20 am until 10:40 am. Cookies and coffee will be served. All are welcome!

Today is Food Pantry Sunday. Thanks to all for your gift(s) of non-perishable food items and your continued support of this ministry to our community. All items collected will be going to Holly Place.

Susan Hughes will be set up in the west entrance August 11th with cantaloupes for donation from 9:30 am until after the 10:45 am worship service. All proceeds will go to the Good Samaritan Fund. First come first serve.

August Tidings are now available. If you did not receive an electronic copy please notify the Church office and you will be added to the emailing list. Printed copies can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary or in the fellowship hall.

It's time again for our annual School Kit collection for Church World Service. This is the time of year when so many stores have their back-to-school items on sale at very reasonable prices. A list of school kit items is enclosed in your bulletin. Please contact Sue Vanderveer if you have questions. Her contact information is in the directory.

“Wrap Up” Annual Conference Reports can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary, in the fellowship hall and is also published in the August Tidings.

HCob Student Scholarship Fund—The Service & Outreach Team is inviting students to apply for our yearly distribution of funds from the Student Scholarship Fund. A letter of interest needs to be addressed to Suzie Wolfe, Chair, by August 31, 2024. Please include where you will be attending and what your major is. Also, please include the school's address.

Save the Date!! - Please save the date for our Community Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat which will be held on Saturday, October 19th from 1-4 pm. The Service & Outreach Team needs your help.

CDS Training—For those who are 18 years or older, and have a heart for children, and may be interested in becoming Children's Disaster Services volunteers, training will be held at the Frederick Church of the Brethren on September 27-28, 2024, Friday 4:30pm—Saturday 5:30pm. Information can be learned at: <http://www.brethren.org/cds>. For those wishing to register, click on the following link: <https://www.brethren.org/cds/training/dates.html>.

Field of Hope/Growing Project. Field of Hope pledge forms can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary or in the fellowship hall for anyone desiring to make a pledge.

Cash for Causes/Martin's Gift Card Program. Purchase Martin's gift cards to take to the store to pay for your groceries or gas, and 5% of the face value of the gift card is a donation to the church and goes toward your yearly charitable contribution. To purchase a card, please contact Larry Kees, Jr. (301-331-0107). We can make arrangements to leave cards in your church mailbox or mail them to you.

Printed copies of Leadership and Ministry team meeting minutes are available in the west entrance. The holders are located on the wall beside the bulletin board.

The Church Directory. Now is a good time to update your information in the church directory. Please send any changes/updates/additions to secretaryhcob@gmail.com, or leave a note in Allyson's mailbox. Also, if you're not on the birthday and anniversary lists, please email that information, too! Please include the year, even though it is not published. If we don't have the year, that piece of software defaults to the year 1900. Thank you!

Deadline for bulletins and newsletters. Announcements for the weekly bulletin need to be given to the administrative assistant before noon on Wednesday. Announcements for the monthly newsletters need to be given to the administrative assistant before the 15th of each month. Let's help her out by meeting deadlines, and also by not asking for special exceptions. Announcements should continue to be emailed to secretaryhcob@gmail.com. Thank you!

You can check the church calendar from your home computer or any Internet-enabled device, including your smartphone. The calendar can be viewed online by going to <http://www.hagerstowncob.org> and clicking on the Calendar tab. The calendar is updated continuously. We do our best to keep current by adding, moving, and deleting as information comes in.

Offering drop-off box is located in the west entrance by the double doors. This box can be used to drop off your offering or order forms. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Please remember to keep the administrative assistant updated on when and where meetings/events are being held. Please email or call the Administrative Assistant with information that needs added to the church calendar. **301-733-3565** or secretaryhcob@gmail.com. Thank you!

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 4

Food Pantry Sunday
8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:20 am Fellowship Time/Mullendore Room
10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Monday, August 5

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, August 6

7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting/Zoom

Wednesday, August 7

Administrative Assistant/Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, August 8

5:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

6:30 pm HCOB Softball/Field 1

Friday, August 9

8:00 am Bulletin preparation time/Church office

1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot

Saturday, August 10

Pastor Twyla's day off

Sunday, August 11

Junior Church

8:15 am Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screening

8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall

9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms

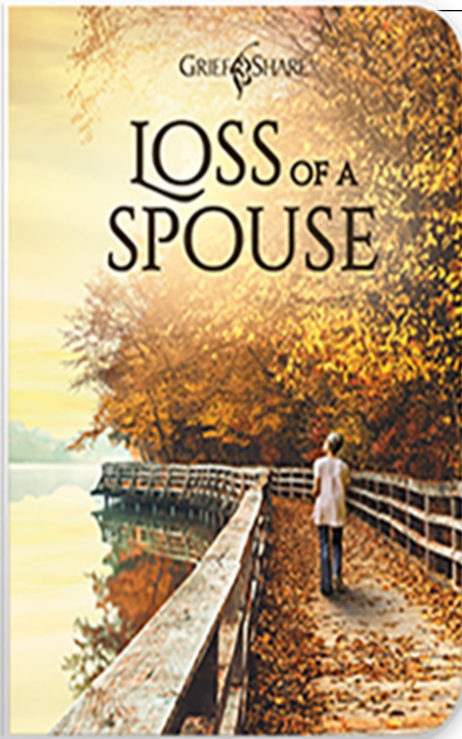
10:15 am Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screening

10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Remember our weekday schedule is subject to rapid change.

You may mail your offering to
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown MD 21740
OR
you can make a secure offering
donation on our website using
PayPal www.hagerstowncob.org

The church calendar is online at
www.hagerstowncob.org
Click the calendar tab.



Grieving the death of a spouse?
Or do you know someone who is?

The death of a spouse brings a unique kind of pain. People who are widowed haven't just lost a loved one—they've lost an entire lifestyle once enjoyed with that special person.

We hope you will consider joining the HCOB GriefShare Team for a special 2-hr seminar which will address the challenges of this type of loss.

You may wish to bring a family member or friend so they can better understand your loss and become a greater support for you. If you have questions, please see Pastor Twyla or Debbie Nycum.

Date: Wednesday, August 21
Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Place: Mullendore Room

Register at www.GriefShare.org



School Kits 2024 Annual Drive

Each kit needs the following:

- One pair of blunt scissors removed from the package (rounded tip, only)
- Three 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (no loose-leaf or filler paper)
- One 30-centimeter / 12" ruler
- One hand-held pencil sharpener removed from the package
- One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)
- Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers (remove pencils from the package)
- One box of 24 crayons (only 24)

Cotton/canvas bags have already been made and are available to pick-up.

Optional: Loose school kit items may be placed in a large Ziploc type bag to keep them together. Remove the air, seal the bag and place inside of the cotton/canvas bag.

Value: \$15.00

Processing fee: \$2.00 per kit

Money for school kits can be placed in the offering. Please use a pew envelope and write "School Kit" on the outside, or write on your check "School Kit".

If you have any questions, please contact Sue Vanderveer.